

REMARKS

This amendment adds no new matter, and is made without prejudice. Support for the amended and new claims is found throughout the specification. Support for new claims 64-67 is found in original claim 9 and original claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 8, from which claim 9 depended. Support for new claims 68-70 is found in original claim 16 and original claims 1, 2 and 3, from which claim 16 depended. Support for those claim elements reciting hybridization conditions is found on page 21, lines 10-12 of the specification; support for conservative substitutions, insertions, additions, deletions and modifications is found at page 16, lines 14-18, and elsewhere throughout the specification. Support for claim 49 is found on page 17, line 8. Other claims have been amended to correct minor grammatical errors or to clarify antecedent basis. Those claims pending after entry of the present amendment correspond to Group II in parent U.S. patent application number 09/612,033, as outlined in the restriction requirement mailed in that application on December 5, 2001. The applicant reserves the right to pursue subject matter of a scope similar to the originally filed claims in related applications.

CONCLUSION

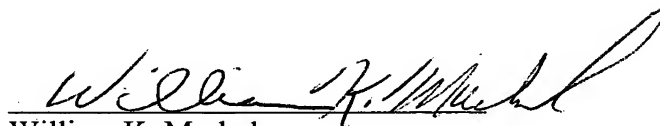
The applicants respectfully request entry of the present amendment. Upon entry of the present amendment, claims 13-15, 17, 40-45, 49, 50, and 64-70 will be pending and each of these claims is believed to be in condition for allowance.

The examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below in order to discuss any remaining issues or matters of form that will move this case to allowance.

A filing fee that includes any required additional claim fees is attached. No other fees are believed due.

Respectfully submitted,

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